Excellency and Usefulnesse of the True Spirit of SALT,

More fully Discovered then formerly.

WITH

DIRECTIONS

How to take it, and where it may be had.

Sale & Sole nihil Utilius.

LONDON,

Printed for *Nathaniel Webb* at the Royal Oake in St. *Pauls* Church-yard. 1663.

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Spirit of SALT.

Several Physitians having written savoury Treatises of the nature of Salt, as *Wigandus*, *Tholdius*, *Untzerus*, *Snebergerus*, *Gomesius*, and others; It's improper in many respects to insist upon it in this Paper.

That all Animals, Vegetables and Minerals do yield a Salt as part of their compounded essence, is evident by their Analysis. Among others the Honourable Mr. *Boyle* in his Tracts, and that Learned Physitian of *Oxford* Dr. *Willis* in his 2d *ch.* of *Fermentation*, have soberly handled it; it is a phlegmatick heresie to deny it. How many Diseases in mans little world do flow from the excess or defect of its resolution or compacture; how many Tumors, Ulcers, Scabs, Itches do arise from vellication and erosion of the body by nitrous, vitriolate and aluminous Salts, the Purses of *Galen* and his two Servants very well know.

But it hath pleased God of his superabundant goodness to mankind in these latter daies (especially since the shining forth of the Gospel, and the reformation of many Countries from Popery) to reveal some part of the excellency of marine Salt, when sublimed and rectified; it being indeed the Balsame of the Sea and of the Earth, conserving both from putrefaction, together with all their inhabitants. If the power of common Salt be so admirable, what efficacies may it not exert, when exalted into a noble and generous Spirit, by an able, skilfull and faithfull hand.

Much may be spoken by a Philosophical demonstration of its vertues, according to the principles of Naturalists and Galenicks. But much more hath been experimented then hath yet been demonstrated.

It is not to be doubted, that when our Learned Galenists shall make further process in devesting the impostures of vulgar Chymists and Empiricks, and redeeming the credit of that noble part of the Science of Physick, as *Quercitan*, *Schroderus*, *Angelus Sala*, *Rolfincius*, *Tentzelius*, and *Zwelfer*, present Physician to the Emperour, have acutely performed their parts; and at present divers eminent persons of the Royal Society at *Gresham* Colledge do labour in Natures Secrets: but that among many rare Inventions erecting their heads out of the rubbish and slothfulness of former ages, this Spirit will receive a more noble elucidation, and a more full Encomium.

At present we shall exhibit a large Catalogue of its wonderfull efficacy and vertue, experimented by several Physitians, and other persons of quality, commended and attested by the Writings of some famous Doctors in several parts of *Europe*.

on the *Aspera arteria*, or the [illegible]
constant use of it at meals [illegible]
terfluness of the bloud, and so [illegible]
ous airs, that the habit of the body will be [illegible]
ces, and render persons less subject to [illegible]
heads against such assaults. It helps [illegible] with
the Spirit of Lavender, and is a good [illegible]

2. *Eyes*] which stand with water [illegible] this seems
will be able to foresee more clearly [illegible] omens
of Cataracts, Filmes, Suffusions and Pearles of high value to [illegible] do
prognosticate.

3. *Eares.*] When the *tinnitus* and humming about its drum beats an alarme to deafness. This Spirit of Salt enters the field, and encounters the enemy with good success.

4. *Lungs.*] The bellows of the body that cool the vital spirits, will be animated in their continual labour, and their porous parts not so soon eroded by sharp humours, or hardened with purulent matter, which in length cause the phthisis and emaciation, not only of it self, but of the whole body. The use of this Spirit in some time by altering the state of the bloud, hath a good influence against Coughs and such unquiet companions.

5. *Heart.*] The stagnation of the bloud on one hand, and the sulphurous inflammation of the bloud on the other, produces dismall Diseases in the shop of that noble Artist who frames the spirituous and arterial bloud. But this Spirit of Salt by its incisive, abstersive and penetrating quality, highly promotes the circulation of the bloud, unlocking the obstructions of the Veins and Arteries, and blowes the Trumpet to the March of the Vital Spirits round the Microcosme. When they are too furious by inflamed Sulphur, this quenches their immoderate heat, and sounds a retreat to those Fatal Armies, as is well known to such who are conversant in this Spirit, and that other of Nitre in high Fevers, even in putrid and pestilential, Spirit of Salt mixt with Rob of *Juniper*, sends the enemy through the Pores of the body sweating with the Conflict, panting and vanishing in the Ayre.

By the purifying of the bloud it preserves from all Scalls and Scabs, and pustulous diseases, and is a good companion with higher Remedies even in the Leprosie it self, St. *Anthonies* Fire, the Shingles that issues from the Limb of the *Diaphragma*, and the *Erisypelas*.

Crollius, pag. 124.

6. *Stomach.*] Here we might spend a Volumne; for mixt with Spirit of Mint, or some such Specifick for the Stomach, it works to admiration. It takes away the squeazinesse, waterishness and nauseousness thereof. The acid Ferment of the Stomach, it qualifies, rectifies, corrects in a wonderful manner.

Appetite.

Several decayed and sanguishing appetites it hath made vegete and vi- [illegible] It is the Scavenger of all the Streets, but especially of this *Forum* [illegible] of the body. If the first Concoction be good, then a fair

[illegible] a vomiting Stomach, a slippe- [illegible] Entrailes do sadly bewail. But [illegible] many have found this Spirit to have produced [illegible]

As to the Thirst, which attends Agues, Feavers, Fluxes and Dropsies, [illegible] has proved an useful Friend, beyond Tamarind drinkes, Orange, Lemon, or many a cooling Julep. *Thirst.*

As to Worms, it not only kills them that are alive, but takes away the putrified matter and sedge of Pulp of Fruites, curdled Milk, or mass of corrupted flesh, wherein, out of which they are generated, if mixt with Wormwood water, or the like. But if ordinarily used in daily Beverage, it gives to, and keeps in Children a fresh and lively colour, and is, we are perswaded a great preservative against the Rickets. *Worms.* *Vnzerus de sale cap. 34.*

7. *Liver.*] There are two great diseases among others, that proceed from an ill affected Liver. The Yellow Jaundise, against which it is of good use, if taken in Succory water, or the like: and the Dropsie, in curing whereof it is of famous memory. Unto which *Rosinus* in his *Praxis*, l. 11. c. 6. p. 67. *Edit. Lugd.* 1637, is a solemn witness.

8. *Spleen.*] It opens the obstructions of the Spleen, which is one of the *dominants* of the *Hydropsies*. The *Augustan* Physitians in their *Manisse Hermetis* speak expressly, That it resists all putrefaction, is profitable against the obstructions of both Liver and Spleen, purges the Reins and Bladder, and is a singular remedy against the Dropsie.] The Scurvy and the hypocondriack Melancholy are potently and efficaciously dissipated by this Spirit. *Pharmacop. Augustana, pag. 741.*

9. *Bowels.*] For Colick or *Spasmus* of the Entrailes through sharp corroding humours, when the acid Ferment of the Stomach doth super-abound and is dejected into the Bowels, and produces flaculencies. It is the Prince of Carminatives, and therefore is very useful in all Fluxes that come from such Causes. The *Hernia ventosa* and *aquosa*, or burstings are very much resisted by its frequent use.

10. *Mesentery.*] In all the obstructions of both the Mesaraick veins that nourish the Coats and Membranes of the Bowels with blood, and the milky veins that carry the *Succus alibilis* of the Chyle to the heart, it is of prevalent and excellent vertue; for though it yield no great nourishment, yet it prepares the Chyle with a due temper, and opens the gates of those veins for its quick and proper passage.

11. *Reins and Bladder.*] As to the suppression of Urine and Strangury, *Riverius* among other Medicines, saies of this, [*Spiritus Salis idem præstat, & multò efficacius*] That Spirit of Salt doth the same, and much more effectually. *Helmont* treats amply of it as to this case in several places, *De Lithiasi.* c. 3. § 30. 1. That he preserved a man of 60 years of Age from these paines for sixteen years together, by the use of Salt; And again, c. 3. § 31. That it hath not its fellow in extinguishing the scaldings of Urine, [illegible] though the Stone be already gendred in the Bladder; *Prax. l. 14 c. 8. pag. 229.*

ginous matter, and expels Gravel, &c. § 18. That Spirit of Salt is not only diuretical, and pacifies the Strangury even in such who have the Stone in the Bladder, but also doth diminish the Stones in the Kidneys: And c. 7. § 28. he speaks at large, That the Spirit of *Sevile* Salt drunk every morning with white wine drawn out of the Vessel the day before, hath not only taken away the mortal Stranguries of aged men, and dated several; but in such also who having had a Stone fallen from the Reins, and stopt in the Bladder some Moneths, was at length diminished, and past out in Urine. Unto whom, among many others, *Grembs*, p. 482. a. and *Riverius* in his *Praxis*, l. 14. c. 1. p. 159. and p. 168. are sufficient witnesses.

12. *Womb.* If the frame of Nature be out of course, whether by immoderate fluxe, or by too much constriction, from either of which proceed most lamentable affections of the body, it hath proved a very successful and joyful Remedy.

In Virgins, the *Chloresis* or Green sickness may be much abated by its use, and in time cured.

In Married persons, when sterility proceeds from too much lubricity, it is a good abstersive and mundifying Medicine, and is a rare secret in that case. It also corrects overmuch heat, that many may through its use, under Divine blessing, prove happy Mothers of wholesome Children.

In cold affections of the Joynts through knotty tartareous opilations and constrictions, Spasmes and Convulsions, as in the Gowt and Cramp, and such like distempers, if mixt with Oyle of Wax or Turpentine, it proves very profitable and beneficial, as *Hamel de Fossilibus*, l. 2. c. 4. p. 155. hath asserted. In paines of the sides and Stitches through Wind, it is not to be slighted, both inwardly and outwardly applied.

In general, All Diseases that arise from cold and moist causes, from sharp and corroding humours, from Wind and Flatulent Vapours, from Obstructions and stoppages in the Veines, Arteries, Nerves, it is a Medicine of rare and excellent vertue.

It is not unprofitable with other Mixtures when poyson hath casually or maliciously been ingested into the body. Against Spiders or any venomous Insect, against Mushromes, Opium, or any the like hurtful Vegetable; its excellent good to make a Vehicle for other Antidotes. Neither can I here pass over in silence what *Nicander*, an ancient Author, speaks concerning the use of Salt water in case an Horseleach have been casually swallowed, v. 514, 515. of his *Alexepharmaca*, Η' ἀυτῶ ἁλὶ βεβῶτε, τοτ' ἠελίοισι δαμάζων εἰδαρ ὀπωρῃ εἶσι, τὸ' ἥτινα ἐν μυελῷ δάλλας, Take Salt that hath either been dried by an Autumn Sun, or else by flames of fire. How much more excellently may this Spirit be administred?

For wounds 'tis of great use to cleanse them, being mixt with Plantane-water, Oyle of Roses, or the like.

Give leave to conclude with some eminent passages concerning it out of Learned Physitians.

Schrollerus in his *Pharmacopœia Medico-chymica*, l. 3. c. 21. It is diureti-

therefore is profitably used in the obstructions of Livet, Spleen, and in the Dropsie and Kellom Jaundice. It wonderfully extinguishes thirst. It consumes whatever is corrupt in wounds, or the like affections, eating it away without pain. Being mixt with the Oyl of Wax or Turpentine, or Camomile, it cures stripes, (broaks (bruises) and the like. It eases the paines of the Gowt, and discusses all tophaceous concretions. It cures also the contraction or withcrednes of the Members.

Angelus Sala in his *Aphrotheorum*, Sect. 4. *de Diureticis*. We use this Spirit in the obstruction of the Veins, and other smaller Vessels of mans body.

It is also safely administred in vulnerary Potions, as an Abstersive and Expulsive. It is excellent against the Stone of the Reins and Bladder, to cut the cartaneous, viscous and gross matter whereof the Stone is ingendred, and to evacuate the same. Also against the threefold kind of the Dropsie.

It restores the strength and Spirits impaired by most acute Feavers, and by other Chronical and Errant Diseases. Lastly, It is of wonderful vertue against the *Atrophy*, which followes the obstructions of the *Vena Cava*.

Its Dose and use (in his opinion) is from 5 to 15 drops mixt with Wine, Distilled Waters, Julops, or the like, according to the nature of the Disease, and the discretion of the Physitian.

Ofmalius Gremlx in his *Arbor hominis*, p. 482. speaks thus, Out of Salt there is extracted a Spirit which is of commendable use to prolong life, for it is abstersive and detersive of those Excrements which adhere to the sides of the Vessels, and it therefore of great benefit in the Stone and in obstructions. Many Simples also may be analyzed by this Spirit, and being dissolved, may be applied to Medicinal uses for long life.

Untzerus de sale, c. 34. § 2. Spirit of Salt expels the Urine when stopt.

2. It is excellent against the Stone by diminishing and educing it through the passages of Urine.

3. It helps greatly in the Collick, correcting the peccant humours by its mundifying and resolvent faculty. It digests also flatulent matter by its discussive power. It alters moreover all putrifying matter, and very much preserveth superfluous humors from Corruption. And by its aperient vertue so disposes the morbifick cause, that Nature may be able more speedily to deliver her self from it. Lastly, in as much as it suppresses all sulphureous exhalations, and therewithall, it becomes an excellent anodyne against vehement paines arising from sharp and fervent Spirits of muscilaginous Tartar.

4. Inwardly taken with Wormwood water, kills Wormes.

5. It helps in Feavers, exhausting putrid humours, it consumes and alters all crudities.

6. *Rancellus* anointed the affected place with this Liquor against the *Hernia*, and gave of it inwardly. Externally being mixt with appropriated waters, it is usefully applied unto the part afflicted with the Gowt. It penetrates into all the Veins, Flesh, Bones, and promotes the Cure of all Ulcers. Being used much [illegible]

Members. It happily cures all old, filthy and otherwise incurable [illegible] may the Gangreen it self by continual and constant [illegible] slimes all putrid flesh.

Hamelus de Pestilent. l. 2. c. 4. p. 155. Some drops of this Spirit taken in Wine or distill'd water, frees the stomach from noxious humours, opens obstructions, cures the Jaundise and Dropsie, quiets the torments of the Belly, promotes Urine, expels gravel, opens the passages of the [illegible] and so keeps the body soluble) kills Wormes, mitigates the Gowt, &c. discusses tartarous humours, hinders putrefaction, dissolves, dries and consumes all superfluous matter.

Who desires to read more of its vertues, may consult *Crollius* in his *Basilica Chymica* of *Hartmans* Edition, 1643. p. 128, &c. *Kunrath* in his *Medulla distillatitia*, p. 59. and *Glauber* in his *Consolation for Mariners*; where 'tis treated of at large, as an excellent Preservative against the Scurvy and other diseases: who teaches also its concentration into a Salt.

In pickling of Sallets and making of Sauces, turning of Milk, making of Cheese, keeping Beer and Wine from acidity, in rendring Beef and old flesh tender for food, in cleansing the teeth, and preserving them from the Tooth-ache, in moysthing the mouth, it is very beneficial.

The ordinary Extraction of this Spirit is very corrosive, as being near twelve houres under the power of the fire. But to discern this true and genuine Spirit from that which is adulterated or unskilfully drawn, observe 1. In savour and taste; This is a *sweet-sour*, and hath an acid sweetness like purified Juyce of wild Apples. 2. In Smell, a grateful fragrancy from its pure Volatile Spirit. 3. In Colour, a pale Greenness.

The Dose and Use.

In ordinary Diet take a quarter of a spoonful, or pour as much into a Draught of Beer, Ale, or Wine, till a small sensible acidity or sharpness affect the tongue and Palate, and you will find it with Divine Blessing to be a great Preservative of health both by Sea and Land. But in case of present distempers do afflict, you may safely ascend so far, as to intend to increase acidity a little more then ordinary, and use it in the morning fasting for some dayes together in convenient vehicles; and so in all your diet. You may use it in all seasons of the Year both Winter and Summer, but the constant use should be sometimes intermitted.

This Spirit is to be had at Mr. Nathanael Webb's *Stationer at the Royal Exchange in St. Paul's Church-Yard: at Mr.* Jonas Moxon's *Hoefier, at the Mathematick-dewhead in* Cornhil: *at Mrs.* Mary Davis's *Widow, over against the Tobacco-Roll and Cradle by the Postern near* Moregate: *and at Mrs.* [illegible] beth Sainthil's *Pewter, by the Kings Head in* Southwark.

Decemb. 30. 1662.